



National Congress Bulletin

JUNE-JULY 1952

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Dear P.T.A. Presidents:



Mrs. Newton P.
Leonard

ing and an unfaltering determination to carry that work forward despite obstacles. With our Objects firmly in mind we cannot help having that conviction and determination. We have also the confidence that comes from knowing we can depend upon each other. If our tasks are difficult we will strive the more.

• Since there are 38,000 of you—an overwhelming number but one to rejoice in—I cannot meet all of you or know you personally. But through our *Bulletin* I can talk to you every month, share my experiences, hopes, and plans with you, and hear of your projects and activities.

• I wish every one of you had been able to attend the national convention in Indianapolis. At the banquet on May 21, Mrs. John E. Hayes installed the new officers of the National Congress. Her two little grandsons presented me with the insignia of the office of national president—the gavel and the beautiful gold oak leaf pendant—given to us by Mrs. Milton P. Higgins, a past national president. It seemed particularly fitting that children should participate in this ceremony of an organization dedicated to their happiness and security.

• Speeches and panel discussions by eminent men and women brought us information, expert analysis and comment, and new challenges. In stimulat-

ing workshops on such subjects as school education, parent and family life education, narcotics, program planning, and safety, we discussed our problems under the guidance of specialists and our own leaders; and together we worked toward their solution. It was a rewarding experience that I wish all of you might have had. I wish you could have shared our fun and warm good fellowship too.

• Summer is a good time—a time for children to explore the outdoor world and discover and develop new interests; a time for families to cooperate on vacation projects and to work and play together; a time for all of us to store energy-giving sunlight and to build health and strength for the strenuous activities of fall and winter.

• Although P.T.A. meetings for the 1951-52 school year are over, many members are still active. Some are busy with P.T.A. summer projects, such as supervising playgrounds, day camps, hikes, swimming parties, and gardening to supply vegetables for the school lunch program.

• You, as leaders, are meeting with your executive and other committees to plan your unit's program of action for the coming year. Some days perhaps you combine work with play and hold a picnic meeting at the shore or in the country or in someone's garden. If the lazy summer atmosphere produces more conversation than work, you may have to call another meeting—and that's a gain. For the more you share your thinking the more effectively you work together.

• Your national officers are busy this summer too. Both the Executive Committee and the Program Committee on Legislation meet in July, and national chairmen are preparing their plans of work. We shall represent you at meetings of a number of organizations, among them the Canadian Home and

REGISTER AND VOTE!

The right to vote—to vote in secret without fear and without intimidation—is a very great right. It is your American heritage, yours to use, to defend, and to pass on to your children.

The National Congress in its "Current Emphasis on the Permanent Platform" affirms its intent to foster a concern for human rights and freedoms. It iterates also its belief that if youth is to be guided to satisfactory citizenship adults must set an example of responsible participation in public affairs.

The Congress is happy, therefore, to cooperate in the "Register and Vote" campaign of the American Heritage Foundation, another nonpartisan educational organization, interested in fostering better citizenship.

School and Parent-Teacher Federation, the N.E.A. National Commission on Teacher Education and Professional Standards, and the World Organization of the Teaching Profession.

• Don't let the summer dust accumulate on your P.T.A. materials! If you are a new president you will find invaluable information and ideas in the packet that the retiring president turned over to you. If you are an "old hand" you will find the materials have a new significance and usefulness to you after your year's experience. All of you will want to select and pass on to your officers and committee chairmen the publications and reports that will be especially helpful to them in their particular jobs.

• As national and international tensions and problems continue, children and youth need us more than ever before. Let us make an extra effort this year to help all children and youth to have better homes, better schools, and better communities.

Loyally yours,

Lucille P. Leonard

Mrs. Newton P. Leonard, President
National Congress of Parents and Teachers

There are now . . .

7,219,165 of us!

P.T.A. Membership by States

Alabama	141,330
Arizona	44,893
Arkansas	95,195
California	1,033,602
Colorado	102,889
Connecticut	85,202
Delaware	18,300
D. C.	25,944
Florida	181,460
Georgia	148,458
Hawaii	43,662
Idaho	38,199
Illinois	444,896
Indiana	209,795
Iowa	100,270
Kansas	122,440
Kentucky	129,317
Louisiana	68,240
Maine	21,798
Maryland	84,066
Massachusetts	104,700
Michigan	226,275
Minnesota	164,144
Mississippi	59,207
Missouri	192,817
Montana	27,258
Nebraska	51,151
Nevada	8,712
New Hampshire	17,578
New Jersey	283,986
New Mexico	22,056
New York	292,058
North Carolina	237,998
North Dakota	27,999
Ohio	463,934
Oklahoma	118,931
Oregon	104,364
Pennsylvania	337,976
Rhode Island	33,362
South Carolina	45,572
South Dakota	25,294
Tennessee	213,765
Texas	401,541
Utah	77,664
Vermont	21,359
Virginia	157,375
Washington	160,982
West Virginia	90,021
Wisconsin	93,987
Wyoming	10,916
Unorganized Territory	6,227
Total	7,219,165



• On her way back home to Rhode Island after her recent election to the national presidency, Mrs. Newton P. Leonard stopped at the national office for conferences with several other officers and staff members. While here she was hostess to three members of the Council of Parent-Teacher Associations of Michigan City, Indiana. The visitors brought with them as a gift to our national office five replicas of the famous international friendship gardens of Michigan City. The gardens are perfect in every detail, and the city council made and donated one hundred of them to provide the table decorations for the national convention banquet. Two hundred and fifty persons worked on the project. For the speakers' table alone eight hundred miniature roses were made. Our only regret is that we cannot reproduce the lovely colors in this photograph. Standing are (left to right) Mrs. Robert Ulrich, immediate past president, Michigan City Council; Mrs. Harry Rhoda, vice-president, Michigan City Council; and Mrs. Marshall Livingston, newly elected president, Michigan City Council. Mrs. Leonard, our new national president, is seated.

1953 National Convention

Place: Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Time: May 18, 19, 20.

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AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

• "Children in Today's World" is the general theme for the thirty-second observance of American Education Week, which will be held this year from November 9 to 15. Beginning Sunday, November 9, the daily topics will be Their Churches, Their Homes, Their Heritage, Their Schools, Their Country, Their Opportunity, and Their Future.

The National Congress, as in the past, is one of the four sponsoring organizations. It has prepared a pamphlet, *Homes That Fit Their Needs*, which will be included in AEW packets. P.T.A. presidents will receive their copies from their state congresses.

P.T.A.'s have much to contribute to the observance of this significant week. Now is the time to start planning and organizing your projects.

Current Emphasis on the Permanent Platform



1952-1953

THE Objects and permanent platform of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers set forth the principles by which we seek to promote the welfare of children everywhere.

In the coming year we will study trends, examine situations, and develop plans of action that will implement the permanent platform of the National Congress and the Pledge to Children of the Midcentury White House Conference on Children and Youth.

1. Because a good home is the basic unit in our social structure, we will encourage and stimulate interest in broad, comprehensive parent education and home and family life programs, highlighting parental responsibilities. In striving for an emotionally secure home environment for all children and youth, we will be especially concerned with children who lack such an environment and children who are physically or emotionally handicapped, retarded, or gifted.
2. We will recognize that good health means not only the absence of disease but includes emotional, mental, and spiritual well-being. We will continue to work for adequate local public health services. We will promote action to combat the illicit sale and use of narcotics, recognizing that the extent of the problem varies in different communities and recognizing also that drug addiction in a young person may be an expression of emotional disturbances.
3. We will direct our efforts to eliminate existing and potential safety hazards and to encourage the enforcement of protective safety legislation. Through a study of such educational materials as the National Congress civil defense programs, the Uniform Vehicle Code, driver training courses, and through a study of habits and practices in home, school, and community, we will endeavor to develop correct attitudes toward safety measures.
4. We will continue to work for improved educational opportunities for *all* children. In view of the teacher shortage, we will encourage competent young people to prepare for the career of teaching and encourage teachers of high caliber now in service to remain in the profession. To relieve overcrowded classrooms, we will urge top priorities for school building materials and adequate funds for the immediate construction of functional school plants. We will work toward improved guidance programs in all school systems. We will urge for every school a physical education program with maximum student participation. We will encourage wholesome competitive sports. We will continue to interpret the philosophy and program of education to the public so as to protect our schools from unjustified attacks.
5. We will work toward stimulating a greater awareness of, and concern for, the conservation of individual human freedoms, rights, and dignities and also toward fostering a greater consciousness of individual responsibilities. We will stress the necessity for, and the wisdom of, the conservation, preservation, and sensible cultivation of our great natural resources.
6. We will encourage the development and use of wholesome radio and television programs, films, and publications in education and recreation. In all fields of communication directed toward youth we will continue to discourage the dissemination of objectionable material.
7. We will strive to impress upon the community the need to acknowledge and accept responsibility for its spiritual climate. We will encourage interfaith activities and strive to achieve the common aims of mankind that are essential to world peace.
8. Our greatest hope for satisfactory citizenship lies in making democracy work. We will do all we can to develop in our children a full sense of the responsibilities demanded for good citizenship, including active participation in community affairs and service to our country in time of emergency. Providing an environment suitable for our children to develop as free and responsible members of society is our immediate task. We will help them to gain a sense of unfailing loyalty to this beloved land.
9. We will instill in our children an understanding of, and respect for, all people. We will work for lasting world peace. As the best basis for international cooperation, we will support the United Nations. We believe that peace among the nations of the world is possible if enough people are willing to search out the duties that peace imposes and work for their fulfillment.
10. Realizing that the effectiveness of group action depends upon the devoted service of each individual member in the group, we will make every effort to awaken a renewed sense of dedication to the Objects of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers so that every member feels a personal concern for the destiny of every child.

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PARENT-TEACHER

Legislation PROGRAM



I. POLICIES

Local Control

In all federal child welfare legislation we recommend the inclusion of provisions that will insure maximum local control.

Federal Grants-in-Aid

In all federal grants-in-aid to states we support provisions that will place their administration in whatever regularly constituted federal, state, and local agencies are best qualified, in their respective fields, to administer them.

Education

a. We favor the establishment of the United States Office of Education as an independent agency of government under the general direction of a policy-making federal board of education composed of laymen appointed to long, staggered terms, such board to have authority to appoint the United States Commissioner of Education to serve as its executive officer.

b. We believe that the integrity of our free public school system should be maintained and strengthened. To that end we support the policy that any or all programs of an educational nature to be administered through the public schools should be channeled through the U.S. Office of Education and thence through the state and local departments of education, and that these programs should be administered with a maximum of local control. Any other programs operating in the schools should be integrated into the regular school curriculum and should be administered as outlined above.

Federal Aid for Education

a. We believe that it is necessary for the federal government to appropriate funds to supplement those raised by local and state governments to provide adequate educational opportunities for all children and youth. We support the principle that any such funds appropriated by the federal government should

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go to publicly controlled, tax-supported schools only.

b. We believe that federal funds should be appropriated for the purpose of equalizing educational opportunity among the several states, with provisions ensuring (1) distribution according to need, such need to be determined on the basis of established facts, which shall serve as a foundation for a specific formula for apportionment; (2) maximum local and minimum federal control; and (3) encouragement to the states to put forth their highest efforts to equalize educational opportunities within their own boundaries. This aid should include funds for libraries and for the education of handicapped children.

c. We believe that federal funds should be appropriated to give aid in the construction of public school buildings, after competent, approved surveys have been made. These funds should be channeled from the U.S. Office of Education through state departments of education to the local units of administration. Money should be made available to the states on the basis of an objective formula that would take into account both the need for school facilities and the relative ability of the states to meet such a need. States should be encouraged to set forth principles for equalizing the distribution of state and federal funds, giving special consideration to school administrative units with relatively low financial resources and to areas especially affected by rapid and substantial increase in school-age population.

d. We believe that federal funds should be used to provide educational opportunities for the children of government employees on federally owned property.

e. We believe that federal funds should be used to provide, through the U.S. Office of Education, adequate programs of health and physical fitness for children and youth.

(Wherever a health program is administered by the health department, the school authorities will secure health services for school children with the cooperation of the health department.)

f. We believe that federal funds should be used for such programs of adult education as affect the welfare of children and youth.

Vocational Education

We recommend the increased control of vocational education by state departments of education, so that vocational and general education may be effectively integrated.

(When the first federal funds for vocational education were appropriated, boards were set up at federal and state levels that did not include school people, and the vocational program was carried on under the authority of those boards. Now that vocational education is under the U.S. Office of Education, the amount of funds appropriated for it is large in proportion to those allotted to the other services of this agency.)

Rural Security

We support the continuance of the basic principles of rural security including supervision and guidance services to families, in whatever agency this program is put.

(We support this program because it enables families with children to borrow money for buying and equipping farm homes. Under its rules, supervision, and guidance, many families of tenant farmers or sharecroppers are made self-reliant and self-supporting home owners. Thus the program enables the children in such families to have better schooling, better food, and better health.)

Child Care Centers

We approve the principle of child care centers—made available to children of employed mothers—adequately staffed and supervised by appropriate agencies and jointly financed by public funds and parents' fees or by funds from public or private agencies.

Child Labor

We support such federal legislation as will give necessary protection to child workers, with special emphasis on the establishment of (a) a basic minimum age of sixteen for employment; (b) a higher minimum age for employment in hazardous occupations; and (c) a minimum wage provision for minors.

Child Life Research

We support legislation that will provide adequate appropriations for a continuing program of integrated child life research.

Health

We recommend increased public support of equalized health and health education opportunities for all children and youth.

We support continued federal appropriations to maintain maternal and child health services and services for crippled children.

Merit System

We recommend the extension of the merit system for civil employees, both state and national.

(The interest of the National Congress in the application of the merit system lies in our desire to see child welfare services administered by people qualified to do so rather than by political appointees.)

Disposal of Surplus Materials and Supplies

We believe that unneeded educational, medical, and recreational materials and supplies purchased but no longer used by the armed forces should be released to the proper public agencies—local, state, and national—for use in developing programs of education, health, and recreation throughout the United States.

International Relations

We support the United Nations and its component parts as the best basis for international cooperation.

National Defense

We believe that we must work diligently for world peace by use of all possible United Nations channels to achieve economic, social, physical, and spiritual welfare for all children and youth through education for citizenship in an interdependent world. It is nevertheless necessary in this time of world tension to maintain a military establishment capable of going into effective action in defense of the nation.

The administration of these emergency military measures should ensure the maximum opportunity for education for responsible and effective democratic citizenship.

We believe that all efforts should be made to meet the need for military

manpower from the pool of eligible adults before inducting persons under twenty-one years of age.

We insist, also, that all persons be thoroughly trained and properly equipped before being sent into combat.

In the event that the Congress of the United States should establish a program of universal military training for the expansion of our manpower resources in the armed services, this training should be:

1. A temporary program for the emergency period only, rather than a permanent measure of military conscription.

2. Universal in its application to all young men, beginning at the age 18. (This does not imply combat service.)

3. Confined to a period of not more than six months of basic military training for each person concerned.

4. Conducted with full recognition of the health, educational, and spiritual needs of young people.

5. Operated through the military facilities of the nation in a way that will ensure young men's being trained in areas within reasonable proximity to their homes.

6. Supervised by a national advisory commission comprising both military and civilian representatives.

7. Combined with a continuing educational program.

8. Administered to provide for further education following basic military training for those persons with special abilities in the sciences and the essential professions as determined by regularly constituted civilian educational authorities.

9. Established not to provide a large and permanent standing army but to strengthen the defense of the nation through a civilian reserve of manpower available for immediate and full-time military service to meet any emergency with which our country may be confronted.

Recreation

We recommend increased public support for adequate community recreation services.

We encourage the support of state agencies authorized to assist local governments in setting up recreation programs.

II. ACTIVE PROGRAM**Child Labor**

1. We support ratification by the states of the child labor amendment.

(Eight more states must ratify this amendment before it can become a law.)

2. We oppose legislation that would weaken the protective child labor provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act, as amended in 1949.

Adequate Support for Certain Federal Offices

We support adequate appropriations* for the following federal departments, offices, and agencies.

(As of June 1, the conference committee had not met to resolve differences between Senate and House on budgets of Federal Security Agency and Department of Labor.)

1. U.S. Office of Education, Federal Security Agency.

The two houses agreed upon an appropriation of \$40,000,000 for operation of schools in districts affected by federal activities, plus \$135,000,000 for school construction in these districts. The Senate restored the House cut of \$900,000 to be used for vocational education in the distributive occupations. The House cut \$272,000 from the general operating budget including \$181,000 which was to have been used to develop teaching materials and program suggestions for use of the states in the education of children of migrant workers.

2. Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The House voted a budget of \$1,400,000.

3. Children's Bureau, Federal Security Agency.

The Bureau requested \$30,000,000 for the maternal and child health, child welfare, and crippled children's programs of aid to the states, a sum about \$1,500,000 less than last year's appropriation, and requested authority to redistribute \$3,900,000 left in the funds. This request, if granted, would have permitted the states to operate at about the same level as this year. The House voted the new money requested, but refused the redistribution request. This had the effect of cutting the maternal and child health and crippled children's programs, as most of the unallocated

* By "adequate appropriations" we mean that we support the recommendations of the U.S. Bureau of the Budget, which investigates the requests of each department carefully every year at the time that the budgets are being recommended.

balances are in child welfare funds. The Senate authorized redistribution of the balances, but cut the new money to \$27,600,000. Conference must effect a compromise, to which each house must agree.

4. Federal Extension Service, Department of Agriculture.

The House voted \$27,135,000 for distribution to the states and territories, plus \$905,000 for administration of the program.

5. U.S. Public Health Service, Federal Security Agency.

Of a total budget request of \$302,598,000, the House voted \$278,790,000; the Senate \$283,252,000. Each house made cuts in the tuberculosis, venereal disease, and communicable disease control requests, together with reductions in the general public health grants to states. The mental health program sustained a relatively small cut in the House, restored in the Senate. The Senate not only restored a cut made by the House in the National Cancer Institute budget, but added more than \$2,500,000 for a total of \$17,887,000. Equally generous with the National Heart Institute, the Senate restored the House cut and added \$1,250,000 for a total of \$12,000,000.

6. Food and Drug Administration, Federal Security Agency.

The agency requested a budget of \$5,637,000, from which the House trimmed \$37,000. In restoring this sum, the Senate commended the Food and Drug Administration for its work in safeguarding the public.

7. Bureau of Labor Standards, and Wage and Hour Division, U.S. Department of Labor.

The two houses agreed upon a budget of \$624,000 for the Bureau of Labor Standards, which develops child labor standards and regulations and conducts child labor and youth employment research. The Wage and Hour Division which enforces all federal labor laws and regulations with respect to the employment of both children and adults, received \$7,639,139 having requested \$8,426,000.

Federal Aid for Education

1. We reaffirm our policy as expressed above in item "a" under "Policies—Federal Aid for Education." This statement reads as follows: "a. We believe that it is necessary for the federal

government to appropriate funds to supplement those raised by local and state governments to provide adequate educational opportunities for all children and youth. We support the principle that any such funds appropriated by the federal government should go to publicly controlled, tax-supported schools only." We support legislation that would provide grants-in-aid for publicly controlled, tax-supported schools; allocations to states on the basis of relative per capita income and school-age population; and provisions for a minimum foundation program to serve as a guide for equalizing educational services within the states.

(Congressman Graham Barden of North Carolina has introduced a federal aid to education measure, H.R.4468, which meets the requirements of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers policy. Principal provisions are:

- a. \$314,500,000 per year appropriated to states, Hawaii, Alaska, Puerto Rico, and Virgin Islands.
- b. Purpose declared in title, "helping to establish and maintain an adequate minimum program of education and attempting to more nearly equalize educational opportunities in public elementary and secondary schools."
- c. The funds are to be apportioned to the states on the basis of an objective formula in direct ratio to the number of school-age children and in inverse ratio to the ability of states to support their public schools.
- d. Funds may be used for (1) salaries of teachers in public elementary and secondary schools; (2) salaries of supervisory, administrative, and maintenance personnel for such schools; (3) laboratory equipment; and (4) maintenance of public school buildings.
- e. States may not reduce own support of schools below level of support from state and local sources for year ending June 30, 1950.
- f. Federal money must be distributed so as to raise current expenditures for each school as nearly as possible to \$150 per year for each pupil in average daily attendance.
- g. Funds will be channeled through the U.S. Office of Education and state educational agencies.
- h. Judicial review is provided in case disagreement occurs concerning administration of the funds.
- i. No flat guarantee per pupil is provided for every state.)

2. We recommend that the education of Indian children be administered through state departments of education and that adequate federal appropriations be given to furnish educational opportunities equal to those of other American children.

3. We support legislation to enable the states to make more adequate provision for special services required for the education of physically handicapped children of school age, as provided in S.1463 (Hill, Douglas, Humphrey, Lehman, Murray, Neely, Pastore, Aiken, and Morse, same bill as S.3102 in the Eighty-first Congress).

(Appropriations ranging from \$4,000,000 for the first year to \$16,000,000 for the fourth and succeeding years will be channeled through the U.S. Office of Education and state departments of education. Provision is made for cooperation with the several related services of the Children's Bureau. The state agency will present a plan providing for state matching funds; showing policies and methods of administration, supervision, and training of personnel; providing methods of identifying the cost of special educational services required for the education of physically handicapped children; and indicating policies concerning distribution of funds between rural and urban areas and among types of services. Each state will receive \$25,000, plus additional funds apportioned according to number of children and financial need.)

Health

We support legislation to assist the states in the development and maintenance of local health units as provided in S.445 (Hill and others), H.R.274 (Priest), and H.R.913 (Dolliver), the Local Public Health Units Act of 1951.

(S.445 provides for the development and maintenance of local public health units organized to provide basic full-time public health services and to assist the states in the training of personnel for local public health work. Allotment of matching funds is to be made on the basis of population and the financial need of the states for assistance to provide basic public health services for all persons within the state. The basic public health services necessary for the well-being of every community are control of communicable disease, environmental and food sanitation, health education, collection and analysis of vital statistics, public health laboratory services, and maternal and child health services.

S.445, Hill and others, passed the Senate 38-35, on March 16, 1951. This measure is exactly like S.522, in the Eighty-first Congress. H.R.913, Dolliver, and H.R.274, Priest, while providing for similar financing of the program, define the scope of public health more narrowly, restrict the powers of the Surgeon General in setting performance standards, limit federal participation to the emergency period, and give priority to defense areas. It is to be hoped that no narrow definition of public health services will be written into the bill that finally becomes law, as such restrictions might affect programs already in operation. It is obviously also our belief that the program of federal assistance should extend beyond the emergency period. Extensive hearings were held on H.R.274 in May 1951, but as of June 6, 1952, it had not been possible to have this legislation reported out of committee.)

International Relations

It is the policy of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers to support the United Nations and its component parts as the best basis for international cooperation. Our principal legislative concern is support for the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization; the Food and Agricultural Organization; the World Health Organization; and the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund.

(The conference committee appointed to effect a compromise on the Senate and House mutual bills reported a bill authorizing \$16,481,000 for the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF). On June 6, a subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee was considering appropriations pursuant to the authorizations in the compromise bill, in advance of the bill's approval by Senate and House. Appropriations are not necessarily for the amounts authorized.)

Library Service

We believe that the basic purpose of federal grants in the library field should be to extend public library service to all people on an equitable basis, keeping in mind needs in rural areas especially. Accordingly, we support legislation to improve public library services by providing federal funds to be channeled through the U.S. Office of Education to state library agencies for use in promoting library service according to the pattern best suited to state needs. We believe that this legislation should be terminal, should insure maximum local and minimum federal control, and should provide for variable matching grants on an equalization basis.

(S.1452 (Hill, Douglas, and Aiken) meets all the above requirements. The bill provides for extension of library service to rural areas where service is inadequate or completely lacking. The policy statement of the bill stipulates maintenance of maximum local control and noninterference with local initiative. The appropriation authorization is for \$7,500,000 for each of five years beginning with the year ending June 30, 1952. Fixed allotments are provided for the territories, and each state is to receive an allotment based upon the size of its rural population. Additional funds will be given each state on a matching basis, determined by the state's per capita income. The official state library administration agency must present a plan for administering the federal funds. Library service must be free to the public; the states must not cut their own appropriations for library service; and no federal money may be used for purchase of land, or for purchase or construction of buildings.

Several almost identical bills have been introduced in the House: H.R.5190, Patman; H.R.5195, Tackett; H.R.5216, Jenkins; H.R.5221, Elliott; H.R.5222, Morton; H.R.5227, Mitchell; H.R.5229, Steed; and H.R.5311, Bailey.

S.1452 is on Senate calendar. Hearings have been held on H.R.5195.)

Postal Rates Increase

We oppose legislation that would eliminate special rates for the mailing of library books and the special second-class mailing rates now available to non-profit organizations such as the National Congress of Parents and Teachers.

School Lunch

We support adequate appropriations to carry out the school lunch program as provided in Public Law 396.

(The House authorized the same amount as appropriated for the current year, \$83,367,491.)

Alcoholic Beverages

We support legislation to prohibit transportation in interstate commerce of paid advertisements of alcoholic beverages or the broadcasting by means of any radio or television station of any advertisements of alcoholic beverages.

(Since the power over interstate commerce is vested in the federal government, states where the sale of alcoholic beverages is illegal are powerless to prevent these practices or to regulate them by state law.)

Priority for School Building Construction

We support measures that will give a top priority for materials, equipment, and supplies for school buildings after major military needs of the United States have been met.

Emergency Maternity and Infant Care

We support the principle of the development of a program to provide maternity and infant care for wives and infants of enlisted men in the armed forces similar but not identical to the emergency maternal and infant care program in effect during the last war.

(a. The Department of Defense estimates approximately three and one-half million as the strength of all branches of the armed forces in the fiscal year 1952, of which probably one million will be married enlisted men—one-third of the enlisted personnel. It is estimated that there will be 240,000 births to wives of these men in 1952, with not more than 70,000 of these births occurring in military hospitals.

b. Although wives of servicemen are accepted for maternal care in military hospitals to the extent that facilities are available for them after care is given military personnel, distances and transportation and other costs

make it difficult or impossible to use this service unless the wives live close to the hospitals.

c. The quarters allotment in the lower pay grades will not cover food, rent, and clothing for wife and children and savings for doctor and hospital bills incidental to confinement as well as prenatal and postnatal care.

d. Funds of the army, navy, and air force relief societies are needed for meeting the demands created by a wide variety of circumstances that do not include such normal and natural expenses as those for maternal and infant care.

e. The American Red Cross reports a striking increase in requests for assistance in paying for maternity care, but chapter funds are not regularly used for this purpose, which is not defined as an emergency except in most unusual circumstances.

f. Local public hospital care is often unavailable to resident wives of servicemen because they are eligible for care in military hospitals. In other areas local public hospitals will provide for emergency deliveries but will not give prenatal and postnatal care when women do not meet residence requirements.

g. The regular maternal and child health programs are open to wives and children of servicemen as to other residents of the community, but these programs, except for certain specialized funds, do not provide for delivery care or for the care of sick children and infants. The diversion of present funds for establishing this service seems unwise as they are not more than enough to meet the current program. The addition of funds to provide for this expansion runs into the problem of state support as the maternal and child health plan is one for matching funds.)

Fireworks

We support legislation that would prohibit the interstate shipment of fireworks or advertising thereof into any state in which the sale of fireworks is prohibited by law. S.1700 (Dirksen) carries both these provisions. H.R.4528 (Church) prohibits shipment alone.

H.R.4528 is in the House Rules Committee, having been favorably reported by the Judiciary Committee.

(Some of the state congresses have given active support to the passage of progressive legislation that bans the possession and use of fireworks within their states except by persons granted permits by city or county authorities for the purpose of conducting public fireworks displays under properly controlled conditions. These states, however, continue to see their citizens suffer unnecessary injuries including the loss of eyes, limbs, and even life because of unlawful shipment of fireworks across their borders.

The National Congress of Parents and Teachers believes in provision of health opportunities for all children and strongly supports programs of health and education for handicapped children. The National Congress has also adopted the principle of upholding the efforts of individual states to protect themselves from inroads of materials outlawed by these states.)



With this issue of the *Bulletin* we launch a new department, *Through Our Fieldglass*. It will focus on parent-teacher news and information gathered in the field by our consultants. From time to time the field staff will discuss and answer questions that they meet frequently in the states. We hope you will find *Through Our Fieldglass* a lively and helpful feature of our *National Congress Bulletin*.

ONE of our school systems reports that it has created the post of School-Community Coordinator. The new official's function is to explore the hobbies, talents, and special abilities of parents in the school area and to classify and index them in a special card file in the school administrator's office. Parents are then available for service in the fields of instruction and social activities. The potentialities of such a program for enlisting parent participation in school and community activities and for improving home-school-community relations are almost limitless.

From another school administrator comes a parallel proposal for school-community cooperation. He suggests the creation of local committees that would study community problems and bring them before the school board. P.T.A. members, he thought, would make excellent members of the committees, for who are more aware of, and alert to, community needs?

Mutual aid, whether on the local, national, or international level, is a stimulating concept. Since colonial days when neighbors helped each other build homes and together built a common stockade for common defense, mutual helpfulness has been part of our American tradition. Now we are finding new ways for school and home and community to be mutually helpful.

During a one-day district conference in Illinois substitute teachers were provided for the schools in order that the regular teachers could attend the meeting.

* * *

We are learning that a number of libraries on the campuses of colleges and universities are woefully lacking in National Congress publications and materials on the parent-teacher organization. Some do not have subscriptions to the *National Parent-Teacher: The P.T.A. Magazine*. It has been suggested that parent-teacher groups might supply libraries with state and national publications or supplement those the libraries already have. Our future teachers and future parents need to become acquainted with these helpful materials. Let's help to make them available.

CORRECTION

Our apologies go to the Colorado and Delaware congresses for incorrectly listing their state contributions to the National Headquarters Fund in the May *Bulletin*. The correct amounts are as follows:

Colorado—total collected, \$12,680.40; contribution per member, 14 cents.

Delaware—total collected, \$757.50; contribution per member, 5 cents.

50-or-more and 100-or-more Clubs

• This month we make room for twenty-seven more P.T.A.'s in the Fifty-or-More Club. Their names arrived too late to be included in the May *Bulletin*.

Each of these local associations secured at least fifty subscriptions to the *National Parent-Teacher*; some shot way over the fifty mark!

Especially outstanding are three associations that joined the ranks of the One-Hundred-or-More Club: Vollentine of Memphis, Tennessee; Bickel of Twin Falls, Idaho; and Lincoln of Pottstown, Pennsylvania. Victor Berger of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, raised its total to 202 subscriptions; North Beach of Miami Beach, Florida, to 103.

In the Fifty-or-More Club, Garrison, Scottsboro, and Sylvania Heights reported new totals.

Congratulations!

ONE HUNDRED OR MORE

Victor Berger	Milwaukee, Wis.	202
Vollentine	Memphis, Tenn.	104
North Beach	Miami Beach, Fla.	103
Bickel	Twin Falls, Idaho	100
Lincoln	Pottstown, Pa.	100

FIFTY OR MORE

Scottsboro	Scottsboro, Ala.	84
Declo	Declo, Idaho	80
Jackson	Massillon, Ohio	71
Westhaven	Portsmouth, Va.	71
Sylvania Heights	Miami, Fla.	68
Garrison	Rockford, Ill.	64
Northboro	West Palm Beach, Fla.	62
Boardman	Youngstown, Ohio	60
Whittier	Phoenix, Ariz.	56
Washington	Clinton, Mo.	56
Fredericksburg	Fredericksburg, Texas	56
Clara Hearne	Roanoke Rapids, N. C.	53
4th Street	Brunswick, Ga.	52
Laurel	Columbia, S. C.	52
Van Buren	Caldwell, Idaho	52
Roosevelt High	Chicago, Ill.	51
Cleveland Jr. High	Tulsa, Okla.	51
Retta Brown	Eldorado, Ark.	50
Sr. High	" "	50
Yocom	" "	50
Goodwin	Buhl, Idaho	50
Buhl	Sioux City, Iowa	50
Longfellow	Hutchinson, Kans.	50
Lincoln	Beverly, Mass.	50
Prospect	Jackson, Miss.	50
George	Johnson County, Kans.	50
Corinth	Youngstown, Ohio	50
Taft	Norfolk, Va.	50
Larchmont	Milwaukee, Wis.	50
Sherman		

National Congress Bulletin

At a midwinter conference in Massachusetts the *National Parent-Teacher* received special emphasis. A businessman member of a local group gave a splendid sales talk on the merits of the Magazine and used posters and graphs to point up certain features and information.